



Wildland Fire Updates

July 12, 2013
Last Updated: 9:00 a.m.

Contacts
Report Fires: 911
AFS/DOF Public Affairs: (907) 356-5511

Updates are provided as significant changes in activity occur.

7/12 Stuart Creek 2 Fire

The evacuation advisory is still in effect for mileposts 16-34. The fire is **28% contained** and is **84,275 acres** with no increase in acreage mapped yesterday. A well attended community meeting by the California Incident Management Team was conducted in Pleasant Valley last night.

The Tanana Fairground is still open to hosting animals for residents within the evacuation watch area. The Chena Hot Springs road and the Chena Hot Springs Resort are open. The campgrounds and cabin rentals in the Chena River State Recreation Area are not open. For more information, please contact: (907) 451-2695 or visit: www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/curevnts.htm.

The fire is still south of the Chena River and east of the Grange Hall Road and west of the South Fork of the Chena River. Crews continue to hold the fire on the Quarry and Brigadier Road on the fire's south flank. There are 794 personnel, 24 hand crews, 24 engines, 9 dozers, 12 water tenders, 8 helicopters, and air tankers are available to be working on the fire.



Building a fuel break line on the Stuart 2 Fire

The fire activity is expected to increase today due to the warming and drying weather trend. Firefighters will continue to provide structure protection in the threatened communities. The fire extinguishment within in the Military Impact Area continues to challenge firefighters with special safety precautions due to exposure to dangerous and unexploded ordnances. Plans for today include continuing to complete remaining 44 miles of direct hand and dozer line construction, securing and mop-up completed containment line, and implement aerial support.

7/12 Moon Lake (#401)

The fire is 17,155 acres and 10% contained. Areas of heavy blowdown are making containment efforts difficult. Crews will continue today with direct line construction and mop up on the east side of the fire and will secure the unburned edges along the Tanana River. Fire continues to be monitored by boat. A Type 3 Incident Management Team from Indiana is shadowing the Alaska Incident Management Team to learn management techniques. For more information please visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3459/>.

7/12 Skinny's Road Fire (#388) –The Fire Is 100 Percent Contained and the Parks Highway Is Open

The 1,806-acre fire is now 100 percent contained. The Oregon Incident Management Team is transitioning the fire to a local Type 3 Incident Management Team for mop up and rehabilitation operations. Fire updates may be available on <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3456/>.

Smoke:

All communities near the fire should expect to be impacted by smoke. In the evenings and morning, smoke sinks to the lower elevation communities like North Pole, Fairbanks, and Eielson AFB. For information on smoke conditions, visit this website: <http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality/>. Smoke can pose health concerns for the public. Residents are encouraged to visit the “Protect Yourself from Smoke” website for smoke protection information at <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/Wildfires/>.

It is very important that homeowners take time to create defensible space. The Alaska Fire Wise brochure provides guidelines for emergency preparedness and measures that can be taken to prepare a home and property for wildland fire <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/firewise09.pdf>.

7/12 – Fire Information Update

A total of **78** fires are active statewide, according to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center. A total of **450** fires have burned **1,050,398** acres so far this year; **7** fires are staffed.

Information on **travel conditions** and fire-related road closures can be found at <http://511.alaska.gov>.

Keep informed of local fire information sources and air quality reports. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has smoke information at <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm> and <http://dec.alaska.gov/air/smokemain.htm>. For “Frequently Asked Questions” visit http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/smoke_qa.htm.

7/12 Keeping Campfires Safe This Fire Season

Despite current cloudy and rainy weather, mosses, grasses, and other light fuels dry very quickly when the sun returns. These light fuels are the carriers of fire. Fire personnel have suppressed numerous human caused fires across Alaska this fire season. Currently, any spark can cause a fire.

Campers are advised that campfires are dangerous this time of year. Large Fires and bonfires, fires that are throwing embers, or any fire that cannot be extinguished could quickly create a serious risk.

Due to the severe potential for damage to natural resources, property, and human life, penalties may be cited with fines and possible imprisonment (AS4115.140).

All burning permits remain suspended until further notice due to potential fire severity.

Preventing human-caused wildfires requires awareness and responsibility and benefits our state resources and the safety of our communities.

“You are responsible for every fire you start”

###

Information Gathering/Additional References

www.inciweb.nwcg.gov

www.twitter.com

Alaska Fire Service account: **@BLM_AFS**

Alaska Division of Forestry account: **@AK_Forestry**

Bureau of Land Management account: **@BLMALaska**

National Park Service account: **@AlaskaNPS**

US Fish and Wildlife Service account: **@USFWSAlaska**

Alaska Fire Consortium: **@AKfirescience**

www.facebook.com

BLM Alaska Fire Service account: **BLM Alaska Fire Service**

Alaska Division of Forestry account: **AK.Forestry**

Bureau of Land Management account: **BLMALaska**

National Park Service account: **AlaskaNPS**

US Fish and Wildlife Service account: **USFWSAlaska**

www.youtube.com

Alaska Division of Forestry account: **AlaskaDNRDOF**

National Park Service account: **AlaskaNPS**

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/>
- Map of Current Fires: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>
- Alaska Situation Report: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf>
- National Fire Situation Report: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf>
- Interagency Newsroom (Media Guide): <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/newsroom.php>
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group - Education and Reference Materials:
<http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php>
- Alaska Fire Consortium: <http://akfireconsortium.uaf.edu>
- Protect your home and property!: <http://firewise.org/> and
- <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/firewise09.pdf>
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns):
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <http://511.alaska.gov/>
- BLM Alaska Fire Service: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/afs/>
- Alaska Division of Forestry: <http://forestry.alaska.gov>
- Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): <http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/>
- National Parks Service: <http://www.nps.gov/akso/nature/fire/>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <http://www.fws.gov/fire>
- USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>
- Anchorage Fire Department: www.muni.org/fire
- National Weather Service: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.html>
- Federal Aviation Administration: <http://www.faa.gov/>

AICC Wildland Fire Update is compiled by Alaska Division of Forestry and BLM Alaska Fire Service